

- d) for at least one triggerable operating function, there being adapted to be set an associated, operating-function specific mode of operation,
- in which, in a first operating-function specific mode of operation, there is no operating-function associated symbol indicated in or beside the reading matter on the sheet-like display unit and
  - in a second operating-function specific mode of operation, there is an operating-function associated symbol indicated in or beside the reading matter on the sheet-like display unit.

48.

31. (New) The digital book of claim 30, further including
- a) a manipulation region has provided therein at least two input means adapted to be actuated,
  - b) the arrangement of the input means adapted to be actuated in the manipulation region is designed such that said input means can be actuated simultaneously with the fingers of a hand.

49.

32. (New) The digital book of claim 31, wherein the process of operation is carried out by actions of the fingers of the user on the manipulation region, without this necessitating substantial shifting of the wrist of the user's hand relative to the casing.

50.

33. (New) The digital book of claim 32, wherein the casing within the manipulation region has at least one input means adapted to be actuated, which is arranged laterally or on the side directed away from the flat screen.

51.

34. (New) The digital book of claim 33, wherein the screen is designed a pressure-sensitive touchscreen at least in the manipulation region.

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52.  
33. (New) The digital book of claim 34, wherein the screen is designed as pressure-sensitive touchscreen at least in the edge portion thereof, with at least a screen corner portion or a portion located in the middle of an edge section being operable to trigger specific functions.

53.  
36. (New) The digital book of claim 30, wherein the input means individually or in combination trigger

- leafing-through functions for navigating in the book contents displayed,
- providing functions for selection menus or
- selection functions within selection menus provided.

54.  
37. (New) The digital book of claim 36, wherein specific input means, individually or in combination, in the basic mode are associated with a specific first functionality, but immediately after triggering a providing function for a selection menu trigger, in a selection mode, a selection function within this selection menu provided.

55.  
38. (New) The digital book of claim 37, wherein the selection menus are indicated exclusively in an edge portion of the screen, without covering the book contents displayed.

56.  
39. (New) The digital book of claim 38, wherein the manipulation region comprises at least one multifunction key means.

57.  
40. (New) The digital book of claim 39, wherein the input means comprises at least one separate mechanical operating element.

58.  
41. (New) The digital book of claim 39, wherein the input means comprises at least one pressure-sensitive region of a touchscreen.

59.  
42. (New) The digital book of claim 39, wherein the input means comprises a voice control means including a microphone.

60.  
43. (New) The digital book of claim 30, wherein in the basic mode, operating information having no relation to selection menus is indicated in the sheet-like display unit.

61.  
44. (New) A mobile digital display means, in particular for reproducing text and image information, comprising:

- a1  
cont.  
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- a) a casing having a sheet-like display unit with at least one flat screen,
  - b) at least one manipulation region for operation by a user, and
  - c) at least one operating element adapted to be actuated and located within the manipulation region on the side directed away from the flat screen or in a casing edge laterally adjacent the flat screen,
  - d) said operating elements, individually or in combination, triggering
    - leafing-through functions for navigating in the book contents displayed,
    - providing functions for selection menus or
    - selection functions within selection menus provided.

62.  
45. (New) The display means of claim 44, wherein

- a) the manipulation region has provided therein at least two operating elements adapted to be actuated,
- b) the arrangement of the operating elements adapted to be actuated in the manipulation region is designed such that said operating elements can be actuated simultaneously with the fingers of a hand.

63.  
46. (New) The display means of claim 44, wherein the process of operation is carried out by actions of the fingers of the user on the manipulation region, without this necessitating substantial shifting of the wrist of the user's hand relative to the casing.

64.  
47. (New) A mobile digital display means, in particular for reproducing text and image information, comprising:

- a) a casing having a sheet-like display unit with at least one flat screen,
- b) at least one manipulation region for operating by a user, and
- c) at least two operating elements adapted to be actuated and located within the manipulation region outside of the range of the sheet-like display unit,
- d) said operating elements triggering at least pre-determined
  - leafing-through functions for navigating in the book contents displayed,
  - providing functions for selection menus or
  - selection functions within selection menus provided,
- e) when corresponding predetermined pairs of operating elements are actuated simultaneously or when corresponding predetermined pairs of operating elements are actually immediately in succession, or when a corresponding predetermined operating element is operated twice immediately in succession.

65.  
48. (New) The display means of claim 47, wherein

- a) the manipulation region has provided therein at least two operating elements adapted to be actuated, and
- b) the arrangement of the operating elements adapted to be actuated in the manipulation region is designed such that said operating elements can be actuated simultaneously with the fingers of a hand.

66.  
49. (New) The display means of claim 47, wherein the process of operation can be carried out by actions of the fingers of the user on the manipulation region, without this necessitating substantial shifting of the wrist of the user's hand relative to the casing.

67.  
50. (New) The display means of claim 49, wherein the casing within the manipulation region has at least one operating element adapted to be actuated, which is arranged laterally or on the side directed away from the flat screen.

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68.  
51. (New) The display means of claim 50, wherein the screen is designed a pressure-sensitive touchscreen at least in the manipulation region.

69.  
52. (New) The display means of claim 51, wherein the screen is designed as pressure-sensitive touchscreen at least in the edge portion thereof, with at least a screen corner portion or a portion located in the middle of an edge section being operable to trigger specific functions.

70.  
53. (New) The display means of claim 52, wherein the selection menus are indicated exclusively in an edge portion of the screen, without covering the book contents displayed.

71.  
54. (New) The display means of claim 53, wherein the manipulation region comprises at least one multifunction key means.

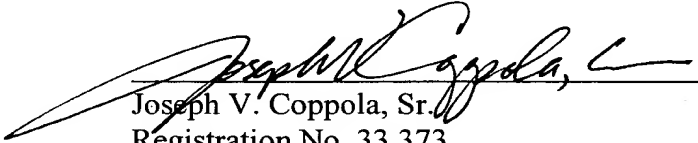
72.  
55. (New) The display means of claim 53, wherein the manipulation region comprises three keys.

73.  
56. (New) The display means of claim 55, further including a voice control means including a microphone, wherein said voice control means takes over the function of at least one operating element.

74.  
57. (New) The display means of claim 56, wherein at least a portion of the screen is designed as a pressure-sensitive touchscreen that takes over the function of at least one operating element.

58. (New) The display means of claim 47, further including
- c) a coupling means for electric coupling of a data carrier unit,
  - d) means, connected with said coupling means, for automatically reading out data from the data carrier unit, and
  - e) means for determining, by using the data read out from the data carrier unit, both the reading matter displayed on the display unit and the operating functions available to the user.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Joseph V. Coppola, Sr.  
 Registration No. 33,373  
 Rader, Fishman and Grauer PLLC  
 1533 N. Woodward Ave., Suite 140  
 Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304  
 (248) 594-0650  
 Attorney for Applicants

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed Preliminary Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee mailing Label Number E4323241970US in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 3-15-2000

By: Joyce Krumpke  
 Joyce A. Krumpke